

SOF

A new confraternity was instituted in Spain, of the slaves of the blessed virgin, and this *sedality* established with large indulgencies.

Stillness. *Stillness.* Boiled; seethed.

SODDEN. [The participle passive of *seethe*.] Boiled; seethed.

Can *sodden* water, their barley broth, *Shakespeare.*

Decoct their cold blood to such valiant heat? *Shakespeare.*

Sodden business! there's a flew'd phrase indeed. *Shakespeare.*

Thou *sodden*-witted lord; thou hast no more brain than I have in my elbows. *Shakespeare's Trilussa and Crissida.*

Try it with milk *sodden*, and with cream. *Bacon.*

Mix it with *sodden* wines and raisins. *Dryden.*

To *SO'DER.* *v. a.* [*soder*, French; *soderen*, Dutch. It is generally written *soder*, from *sodare*, Italian; *sodare*, Latin.]

To cement with some metallick matter.

He that smootheneth with the hammer, encourageth him that smote the anvil, saying, it is ready for *sodering*. *Isa. xli.*

SO'DER. *n. f.* Metallick cement.

Still the difficulty returns, how these hooks were made: what is it that fastens this *soder*, and links these first principles of bodies into a chain?

Soe. n. f. [*sae*, Scottish.] A large wooden vessel with hoops, for holding water; a cowl.

A pump grown dry will yield no water; but pouring a little into it first, for one baton full you may fetch up as many *soe*-fills. *John.*

SOE'VER. *adv.* [*soe* and *ever*.] A word properly joined with a pronoun or adverb, as *whoever*; *whatsoever*; *howsoever*.

What great thing *soe'er* a man proposed to do in his life, he should think of achieving it by fifty.

What love *soe'er* by an heir is shown,

Or you could ne'er suspect my loyal love. *Dryden.*

SO'FA. *n. f.* [I believe an eastern word.] A splendid seat covered with carpets.

The king leaped off from the *sofa* on which he sat, and cried out, 'tis my Abdallah!

SOFT. *adj.* [*softe*, Saxon; *soft*, Dutch.]

1. Not hard.

Hard and *soft* are names we give things, only in relation to the constitutions of our own bodies; that being called hard, which will put us to pain sooner than change figure, by the pressure of any part of our bodies; and that *soft*, which changes the situation of its parts upon an easy touch.

Some bodies are hard, and some *soft*: the hardness is caused by the jejuneness of the spirits, which if a greater degree, make them not only hard, but fragile. *Bacon.*

Hot and cold were in one body fixt,

And *soft* with hard, and light with heavy mixt. *Dryden.*

2. Not rugged; not rough.

What went ye out for to see? a man clothed in *soft* raiment?

behold, they that wear *soft* raiment are in kings houses. *Matth.*

3. Ductile; not unchangeable of form.

Spirits can either fix assume; to *soft*

And uncompounded is their essence pure. *Milton.*

4. Facile; flexible; not resolute; yielding.

A few divines of *soft* and fervile tempers as disposed them to *soft* fudden acting and compliance.

Oneeking is too *soft* and easy; another too fiery. *L'Estrange.*

5. Tender; timorous.

What he hath done famously, he did it to that end; tho' *soft* confounded men can be content to say, it was for his country.

However *soft* within themselves they are,

To you they will be valiant by despair. *Dryden.*

Curst be the verse, how well *soe'er* it flow;

That tends to make one worthy man my foe;

Give virtue scandal, innocence a fear,

Or from the *soft* ey'd virgin steal a tear. *Pope.*

6. Mild; gentle; kind; not severe.

Would my heart were flint like Edward's;

Or Edward's *soft* and pitiful like mine. *Shakespeare.*

Our torments may become as *soft* as now severe. *Milton.*

Yet *soft* his nature, though severe his lays,

His anger moral, and his wisdom gay. *Pope.*

7. Meek; civil; compliant.

Thou art their soldier, and being bred in broils,

Hast not the *soft* way, which thou do'st confess

Were fit for thee to use, as they to claim

In asking their good loves. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*

8. Placid; still; calm.

On her *soft* axle while she paces even,

She bears thee *soft* with the smooth air along. *Milton.*

There *soft*-extended, to the murmuring sound

Of the high porch, Ulysses sleeps profound. *Pope.*

9. Effeminate; viciously nice.

This sense is also mistress of an art

Which to *soft* people sweet perfumes doth sell;

Though this dear art doth little good impart,

Since they smell best, that do of nothing smell. *Davies.*

An idle and *soft* course of life is the source of criminal pleasures.

Notes on the Odyssey.

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10. Delicacy; elegantly tender.

Her form more *soft* and feminine.

Left winning *soft*, less amiably mild. *Milton.*

11. Weak; simple.

The deceiver soon found this *soft* place of Adam's, and innocency itself did not secure him. *Glauville.*

12. Gentle; not loud; not rough.

Her voice was ever *soft*,

Gentle and low, an excellent thing in women. *Shakespeare.*

The Dorian mood of flutes and *soft* recorders. *Milton.*

When some great and gracious monarch dies,

Soft whisp'ers first, and mournful murmurs rise

Among the sad attendants; then the found

Soon gathers voice. *Dryden.*

Soft whispering thus to Nestor's son,

His head reclin'd, young Ithacus begun. *Pope.*

13. Smooth; flowing.

The solemn nightingale tun'd her *soft* lays. *Milton.*

Soft were my numbers, who could take offence,

When smooth description held the place of sense. *Pope.*

Hark, the numbers *soft* and clear

Gently steal upon the ear. *Pope.*

14. Not forcible; not violent.

Sleep falls with *soft* slumb'rous weight. *Milton.*

SOFT. *intrj.* Hold; stop; not to fast.

But *soft*, I pray you; did King Richard then

Proclaim my brother. *Shakespeare's Hen. IV.*

Oh, come in Emilia;

Soft, by and by, let me the curtains draw. *Shakespeare.*

But *soft*, my muse, the world is wide,

And all at once was not delir'd. *Suckling.*

To *SOFTEN.* *v. a.* [*from soft*.]

1. To make *soft*; to make less hard.

Bodies, into which the water will enter, long seething will rather *soften* than indurate. *Bacon's Natural History.*

Their arrow's point they *soften* in the flames. *Gay.*

2. To temperate; to make less fierce or obstinate; to mollify.

And founding hammers break its barbed frame. *Milton.*

I will *soften* stony hearts.

Our friends see not our faults, or conceal them, or *soften* them by their representation. *Locke.*

I would correct the harsh expressions of one party by *softening* and reconciling methods. *Watts.*

3. To make easy; to compose; to make placid; to mitigate; to palliate; to alleviate.

Call round her tomb each object of desire,

Bid her be all that cheers or *softens* life. *Pope.*

The tender sister, daughter, friend, and wife.

Musick can *soften* griefs can charm;

Musick can *soften* pain to ease. *Pope.*

4. To make less harsh.

He bore his great commission in his look,

But sweetly temper'd awe, and *soften'd* all he spoke. *Dryden.*

To *SOFTEN.* *v. n.*

1. To grow less hard.

Many bodies, that will hardly melt, will *soften*; as iron in the forge. *Bacon's Natural History.*

2. To grow less obdurate, cruel, or obstinate.

He may *soften* at the sight of the child;

The silence often of pure innocence

Perfuades, when speaking fails. *Shakespeare.*

SOFTLY. *adv.* [*from soft*.]

1. Without hardness.

2. Not violently; not forcibly.

Solid bodies, if very *softly* percussed, give no sound; as when a man treadeth very *softly* upon boards. *Bacon.*

3. Not loudly.

Ahab rent his cloaths, and went *softly*. *1 Kings xxi. 27.*

In this dark silence *softly* leave the town,

And to the general's tent direct your steps. *Dryden.*

4. Gently; placidly.

Death will dismiss me,

And lay me *softly* in my native dust,

To pay the forfeit of ill-manag'd trust. *Dryden.*

She with a wreath of myrtle crowns the head,

And *softly* lays him on a flow'ry bed. *Dryden's Ænide.*

5. Mildly; tenderly.

The king must die;

Though pity *softly* plead within my soul,

Yet he must die, that I may make you great. *Dryden.*

SOFTNER. *n. f.* [*from soft*.]

1. That which makes *soft*.

2. One who palliates.

Those *softners*, and expedient-mongers, shake their heads

so strongly, that we can hear their pockets jingle. *Swift.*

SOFTNESS. *n. f.* [*from soft*.]

1. The quality of being *soft*.

2. Quality contrary to hardness.

Softness cometh by the greater quantity of spirits, which

ever induce yielding and cession; and by the more equal spread-

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ing of the tangible parts, which thereby are more sliding and following; as in gold. *Bacon's Natural History.*

3. Mildness; kindness.

A wife man, when there is a necessity of expressing any evil actions, should do it by a word that has a secondary idea of kindness or *softness*; or a word that carries in it rebuke and severity. *Watts's Logick.*

4. Civility; gentleness.

Improve these virtues, with a *softness* of manners, and a sweetness of conversation. *Dryden.*

5. Effeminacy; vicious delicacy.

So long as idleness is quite shut out from our lives, all the sins of wantonness, *softness*, and effeminacy are prevented; and there is but little room for temptation. *Taylor.*

He was not delighted with the *softness* of the court. *Clarend.*

6. Timorousness; pusillanimity.

This virtue could not proceed out of fear or *softness*; for he was valiant and active. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

Saving a man's self, or suffering, if with reason, is virtue: if without it, is *softness*, or obstinacy. *Grew.*

7. Quality contrary to harshness.

Softness of sounds is distinct from the exility of sounds. *Bac.*

8. Facility; gentleness; candour; easiness to be affected.

Such was the ancient simplicity and *softness* of spirit, which sometimes prevailed in the world, that they whose words were even as oracles amongst men, seem'd evermore loth to give sentence against any thing publicly received in the church of God. *Hooker.*

9. Mildness; meekness.

For contemplation he and valour form'd,

For *softness* the and sweet attractive grace. *Milton.*

Her stubborn look

This *softness* from thy finger took. *Waller.*

SOIL. *v. a.* [*soil*, Saxon; *soelen*, old German; *soiller*, French.]

1. To soil; to dirt; to pollute; to stain; to sully.

A filthy man in simple weeds forlorn,

And *soiled* with dust of the long dried way. *Fairy Queen.*

Although some heretics have abused this text, yet the sun is not *soiled* in passage. *Bacon's Holy War.*

If I *soil*

Myself with sin, I then but vainly toil. *Sandys.*

I would not *soil* these pure ambrosial weeds,

With the rank vapours of this in-worm mould. *Milton.*

Bad fruit of knowledge, if this be to know,

Which leaves us naked thus, of honour void,

Of innocence, of faith, of purity,

Our wonted ornaments now *soil'd* and stain'd. *Milton.*

One who cou'd n't for a taste o' th' flesh come in,

Licks the *soil'd* earth. *Tate.*

While reeking with a mangled Ombi's blood.

If the eye-glass be tinted faintly with the smoke of a lamp or torch, to obscure the light of the star, the fainter light in the circumference of the star ceases to be visible, and the star, if the glass be sufficiently *soiled* with smoke, appears something more like a mathematical point. *Newton.*

An absent hero's bed they fought to *soil*,

An absent hero's wealth they made their spoil. *Pope.*

2. To dung; to manure.

Men now present, just as they *soil* their ground, not that they love the dirt, but that they expect a crop. *South.*

SOIL. *n. f.* [*from the verb*.]

1. Dirt; spot; pollution; foulness.

By indirect ways

I met this crown; and I myself know well

How trouble-some it fate upon my head:

To thee it shall descend with better quiet;

For all the *soil* of the achievement goes

With me into the earth. *Shakespeare's Henry. IV.*

That would be a great *soil* in the new glo's of your marriage. *Shakespeare.*

Vexed I am with passions,

Which give some *soil* perhaps to my behaviour. *Shakespeare.*

I would have the *soil* of her fair rape

Wip'd off. *Shakespeare.*

A lady's honour must be touch'd,

Which, nice as crimes, will not bear a *soil*. *Dryden.*

2. [*Soil*, French; *solem*, Latin.] Ground; earth, considered with relation to its vegetative qualities.

Judgment may be made of waters by the *soil* whereupon they run. *Bacon's Natural History.*

Her spots thou see'st

As clouds, and clouds may rain, and rain produce

Fruits in her fotten'd *soil*. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

The first cause of a kingdom's thriving is the fruitfulness of the *soil*, to produce the necessaries and conveniences of life; not only for the inhabitants, but for exportation. *Swift.*

3. Land; country.

Dorset, that with a fearful soul

Leads discontented steps in foreign *soil*.

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This fair alliance shall call home

To high promotions. *Shakespeare*